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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 782  
By Caldwell

A RESOLUTION to designate May 8, 2002 as "Tennessee Safe Kids Day".

WHEREAS, unintentional injury is the leading cause of death and disability among children ages fourteen and under; and

WHEREAS, 5,834 children, ages 14 and under, die from unintentional injuries each year and 120,000 children are permanently disabled; and

WHEREAS, each year, one out of every four children sustains injuries that are serious enough to require medical care; and

WHEREAS, these injuries have enormous financial, emotional, and social effects on the child, the family, the community, and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, financial costs alone for unintentional child injury exceed \$175 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that as many as 90 percent of unintentional injuries are preventable; and

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WHEREAS, Safe Kids of Tennessee is part of a national campaign whose long-term goals are to: raise awareness among adults that unintentional injuries are the leading health threat facing children today; build long-term grassroots coalitions to implement childhood injury prevention strategies in communities; stimulate changes in adult and child behavior, products, and the environment in order to reduce the incidence of childhood injury; make childhood injury a public policy priority; and focus attention on, and design injury prevention strategies for children of low-income families who, statistics show, are at highest risk of injury; and

WHEREAS, in this same spirit, Safe Kids of Tennessee will be holding "Safe Kids Day on the Hill" on May 8, 2002; and

WHEREAS, their praiseworthy efforts, on behalf of our young people, will give the children, in our respective communities and around the country, the opportunity for a safe and positive future; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly proudly join with Safe Kids of Tennessee, as well as concerned citizens across this State, to raise awareness of unintentional death and disability among children; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby designate May 8, 2002 as "Tennessee Safe Kids Day".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we encourage all citizens of our great State to join in this worthy effort to raise awareness of, and prevent, unintentional death and disability in children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.